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Dated: May 3, 2006

Signature:

Judy Bridgewater
(Judy Bridgewater)

Docket No.: 313632001000
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Wilhelmus Evergardu HENNINK et al. .

Application No.: 09/913,967

Confirmation No.: 8024

Filed: February 21, 2000 (Int'l.)

Art Unit: 1618

For: STEREOCOMPLEX HYDROGELS

Examiner: B. Fubara

STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW

MS AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicant appreciates the courtesy of a telephonic interview with Examiner Fubara and Professor Wilhelmus Hennink, a co-inventor in the present application, regarding the application referenced above. The interview was conducted on May 3, 2006. A summary of that interview, which complies with the requirements of MPEP 713.04, is provided herein. The applicant greatly appreciates the Examiner's time and assistance with this matter.

Substance of the Interview

1. No exhibits or demonstrations were involved in the telephonic interview.
2. Claim 1 was discussed, and how it is distinguishable from two particular cited references, the Okihara reference (J. Macromol. Sci. Phys. B30 (1 & 2) 119-140 (1990); and WO 98/00710. Claim 1 is directed to a hydrogel composition comprising a mixture of polymers

substituted with chiral oligomers of opposite chirality in an aqueous system, wherein the groups on the polymers interact noncovalently.

3. The Okihara reference does not describe an aqueous system, and cannot form a hydrogel. Applicants noted that the crystals of the stereocomplex in Okihara were grown from an acetonitrile solution by slow cooling, and does not contain water. (See, Okihara at page 121, second full ¶). In contrast, hydrogels generally contain water. (See, Declaration of Wilhelmus Hennink, attached as Exhibit A in Amendment After Final Action mailed April 25, 2006).

4. The WO 98/00170 reference does not describe hydrogels with noncovalent interactions, but teaches only hydrogels that are covalently crosslinked due to radical polymerization.

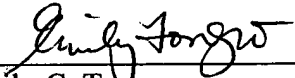
5. No agreement was reached regarding the allowability of the claims; however, the Examiner agreed to fully consider the apparent differences as discussed.

CONCLUSION

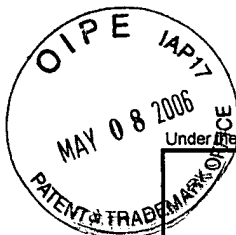
In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing docket no. 31363-2001000. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Dated: May 3, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Emily C. Tongco

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TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	09/913,967	
	Filing Date	February 21, 2000 (Int'l.)	
	First Named Inventor	Wilhelmus Evergardu HENNINK	
	Art Unit	1618	
	Examiner Name	B. Fubara	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	4	Attorney Docket Number	313632001000

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Table on CD	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): Statement of the Substance of the Interview (3 pages) Return Receipt Postcard
Remarks		Customer No. 25225

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT			
Firm Name	MORRISON & FOERSTER LLP		
Signature			
Printed name	Emily C. Tongco		
Date	May 3, 2006	Reg. No.	46,473

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